[Mr. P. N. Krishna Pillai.]

(*b*) 17 students; 6 in weaving, 5 in dyeing and 6 in knitting.

(*c*) No one has been taken to the Government service. Some are employed in private schools and the others are believed to be carrying on the industries they learnt in the institute.

(*d*) 4 women received training in knitting; one has been entertained by the Friend-in-need Society, Trivandrum, and another by the Nicholson's Girls' High School, Tiruvalla.

Collection of Fee from Pupils of Form VI.

83. **MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state why they found it necessary to notify that, from the next school year, the fees of pupils of Form VI would be collected in eight equal instalments instead of in nine instalments?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Fees in the Preparatory Class and in Forms I to V of English Schools were used to be collected in 8 equal instalments, while the fees in Form VI alone were collected in 9 instalments. It was thought better, for the sake of uniformity, to reduce the number of fee instalments for Form VI from 9 to 8 and to make them the same as for the other classes.

Adur Munsiff's Court Building.

84. **MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI** (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose to complete the construction of the new building for the Adur Munsiff's Court in the Kunnattur taluk, and, if so, by what time; and what is the cause of the delay?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. The work will be taken up and completed as early as practicable. A provision of Rs. 5,000 has been made for the work in the draft P. W. D. budget for 1103. The work could not be taken up earlier owing to paucity of funds.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): May I know the total amount of the estimate for the building?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There was a revised estimate of Rs. 35,780 and I understand that it has since been reduced slightly to about Rs. 28,000.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Can we expect the building to be completed early next year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that. But the work will be carried out as expeditiously as possible.

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Are the Government aware that the court-house is still held in a thatched building?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I believe so, and, until the new building is constructed, it will continue as at present.

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MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to complete the building next year in view of the fact that thatched buildings are not safe?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government cannot lay down an absolute date, but they can only ask the Chief Engineer to expedite the work.

Filling of new Vacancies in the Secretariat and Account Office.

85. **MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED** (*Nominated*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have ruled that, when vacancies arise in the Secretariat and the Account Office, the applicant who has put in the longest acting service previously should be given preference over others and that applicants should come in only according to the length of their previous service?

(2) Are the Government aware that this rule has most adversely affected such communities as the Ezhava and the Mahomedan, who are backward in education?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) This is the general rule, as regards acting appointments. Substantive appointments are made by selection, mere length of acting service being not necessarily the deciding factor.

(2) The Government do not consider that the Ezhava and Mahomedan communities have been adversely affected.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): With reference to the answer to part (1), may I know whether there has been any deviation from the general rule as regards acting appointments?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): In which office?

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Either in the Account Office or in the Secretariat.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not recollect.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Am I to understand that when the question of filling up acting vacancies comes up, the Government will not consider the claims of acting men?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Their claims will be considered.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): What are the deciding factors which go to determine the question of efficiency, qualification, etc.?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): What is said in the answer is that previous service merely will not be the only deciding factor. There are many other things such as efficiency and qualification.

MR. P. HABEEB MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Does the member mean to say that when the question of filling up acting appointments comes, the question of efficiency will be considered or caste?

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